
PART B
EXPLOSIVE LICENSING

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WAC 296-52-61005 Types of explosive licenses.

Type of License	Where to Look for Requirements
Dealer's	WAC 296-52-620
Purchaser's	WAC 296-52-630
Blaster's	WAC 296-52-640
Manufacturer's	WAC 296-52-650
Storage	WAC 296-52-660

WAC 296-52-61010 License applicants must provide this information.

(1) Applicants must provide the following information to the department:

- An individual must provide:
 - Their name, address, and citizenship.
- A partnership must provide:
 - The name, address, and citizenship for each partner
 - The name and address of the applicant.
- An association or corporation must provide:
 - The name, address, and citizenship for each officer and director
 - The name and address of the applicant.

(2) Applicants must:

- Meet the requirements of WAC 296-52-610, Explosives licensing
- Meet any license specific requirements
- Provide their Social Security number (RCW 26.23.150)
- Provide any information requested by the department before a new or renewal license will be issued.

WAC 296-52-61015 License applicants must complete department forms. Applications must be completed on department forms.

License application forms may be obtained from and submitted to:

Department of Labor and Industries, WISHA Services Division
Post Office Box 44655,
Olympia, WA 98504-4655.

Note: Purchaser and blaster license applications may also be obtained from explosive dealers or department service locations. (You will find a complete list of L&I service locations at www.lni.wa.gov.)

WAC 296-52-61020 License fees. Applicable license fees must be included with new or renewal explosives license applications.

Type of License	Fee
Dealer's License	25.00
Purchaser's License	5.00
Blaster's License	5.00
Manufacturer's License	25.00
Storage License	(See table below)

Explosive Materials STORAGE LICENSE FEES <i>RCW 70.74.140 applies</i>			
EXPLOSIVES	DETONATORS	FEE (for each magazine or mobile site)	
Maximum Weight (pounds) of explosives permitted in each magazine or mobile site.	Maximum Number of detonators permitted in each magazine or mobile site.	Annual	Permanent Storage License for Two Years
200	133,000	10.00	20.00
1,000	667,000	25.00	50.00
5,000	3,335,000	35.00	70.00
10,000	6,670,000	45.00	90.00
50,000	33,350,000	60.00	120.00
300,000	200,000,000	75.00	150.00

Note: License fees will not be refunded when a license is revoked or suspended for cause.

WAC 296-52-61025 Verification of applicant information. The department will verify license application statements before an explosives license is issued.

WAC 296-52-61030 Applicant participation. Applicants:

- Must cooperate and assist the department in all aspects of the application review
- Must provide all information requested by the department to:
 - Verify application statements
 - Help with any questions
- Must furnish their fingerprints to the department on department forms
 - Fingerprinting and criminal history record information checks are required for management officials directly responsible for explosives operations

WAC 296-52-60130 (Cont.)

- May be required to pay a fee to the law enforcement agency providing fingerprint research services (RCW 70.74.360).

WAC 296-52-61035 Criminal records. The Washington state patrol will provide any criminal records to the director upon request.

WAC 296-52-61040 Reasons why applicants may be disqualified. Licenses will not be issued for the manufacture, retail sale, purchase, storage, or use of explosives to any applicant, who is any of the following:

- Who does not provide proof of a valid explosive license or permit issued by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATF)
- Under twenty-one years of age
- Whose license is suspended or revoked, except as provided in this section
- Convicted in any court of a crime punishable by imprisonment for a term exceeding one year
- Legally determined at the time of application to be:
 - Mentally ill
 - Insane
 - Committed to a mental institution
 - Incompetent due to any mental disability or disease at the time of application.

Note: The department will not reissue a license until competency has been legally restored.

- Physically ill or disabled, and cannot use explosives safely. Disqualifying disabilities may include, but are not limited to:
 - Blindness
 - Deafness
 - Epileptic or diabetic seizures or coma.

Note: The department will not reissue a license until the applicant's physical ability is verified by a qualified physician through the appeal process (WAC 296-52-60065, Violation appeals).

- Who is an alien, unless:
 - They are lawfully admitted for permanent residence
 - They are in lawful nonimmigrant status
- Who has been dishonorably discharged from the United States armed forces
- Who has renounced their citizenship from the United States.

WAC 296-52-61045 License terms. All licenses, including storage licenses, are valid for one year from the date of issue, unless revoked or suspended by the department prior to the expiration date.

WAC 296-52-61050 License renewal. An explosives license must be renewed before the expiration date of the license.

DEALER'S LICENSE

WAC 296-52-62005 Responsibility to obtain a dealer's license. Any person, firm, partnership, corporation, or public agency wanting to purchase explosives (including black powder and blasting agents) for resale, must have a valid dealer's license issued by the department and a valid license or permit issued by the ATF.

WAC 296-52-62010 Dealer applicant information. The dealer applicant must:

- Give the reason they want to participate in the business of dealing in explosives
- Provide information required by WAC 296-52-61010, License applicants must provide this information
- Provide other pertinent information required by the department.

WAC 296-52-62025 Prohibit explosives items from sale or display in these areas. Explosives, improvised devices, or blasting agents cannot be sold, displayed, or exposed for sale on any:

- Highway
- Street
- Sidewalk
- Public way
- **OR**
- Public place.

WAC 296-52-62030 Container labeling. Any package, cask, or can containing any explosive, nitroglycerin, dynamite, or black and/or smokeless powder put up for sale or delivered to any warehouse worker, dock, depot, or common carrier, must be properly labeled with its explosive classification.

WAC 296-52-62035 Authorized agent information. A dealer must make sure the purchaser provides a list of people on their authorized agent list with the following information:

- Name
- Address
- Driver's license number or valid identification
- Social Security number (as required by RCW 26.23.150)
- Place of birth
- Date of birth.

WAC 296-52-62040 Verification of customer identity.

(1) **Orders.**

(a) An order for explosives can be placed:

- In person
- By telephone
- **OR**
- In writing

(b) The dealer must receive proper authorization and identification from the person placing the order to verify the person is either the:

- Purchaser
- **OR**
- Purchaser's authorized agent

Note: This requirement does not apply to licensed common carrier companies when the common carrier:

- Is transferring explosive materials from the seller to the purchaser
- **AND**
- Complies with transfer practices of the state and federal U.S. DOT regulations.

WAC 296-52-62040 (Cont.)

- (2) **Deliveries.** The dealer must:
- (a) Not distribute explosive materials to an unauthorized person.
 - (b) Make sure the recipient is the purchaser or the purchaser's authorized agent.
 - (c) Verify the recipient's identity from a photo identification card (for example, driver's license).
 - (d) Obtain the:
 - (i) Purchaser's magazine license number when explosives are delivered to a storage magazine.
 - (ii) Legal signature of the purchaser or the purchaser's authorized agent on a receipt documenting the explosives were received.

WAC 296-52-62045 Recordkeeping and reporting.

- (1) **Sale documentation.** A dealer must document the following information when an explosive materials order is placed. A dealer's record must include the:
- Date explosive materials were sold
 - Purchaser's name and license number
 - Name of the person authorized by the purchaser to physically receive the explosive materials
 - Kind of explosive materials sold
 - Amount of explosive materials sold
 - Date code.

Note: Black powder sales less than five pounds are not required to be reported to the department.

- (2) **Retention of records and receipts.** Dealers must keep:
- Signed receipts for a minimum of one year from the date explosives were purchased
 - Records of explosives purchased and sold for a minimum of five years.
- (3) **Monthly report.**
- A monthly report of the dealer's records must be submitted to the department at the following address:

Department of Labor and Industries
WISHA Services Division
Post Office Box 44655
Olympia, WA 98504-4655
 - Dealer records must be received by the 10th day of each month.

PURCHASER'S LICENSE

WAC 296-52-63005 Responsibility to obtain a purchaser's license. Any person, firm, partnership, corporation, or public agency wanting to purchase explosives or blasting agents must have a valid purchaser's license or permit issued by the department and a valid license issued by the ATF.

WAC 296-52-63010 Applicant information. Applicants must provide the following information to the department:

- The reason explosives or blasting agents will be used
- The location where explosives or blasting agents will be used
- The kind of explosives or blasting agents to be used
- The amount of explosives or blasting agents to be used
- An explosives storage plan:
 - Documenting proof of ownership of a licensed storage magazine
 - OR**
 - With a signed authorization to use another person's licensed magazine
 - OR**
 - With a signed statement certifying that the explosives will not be stored
- An authorized agent list, if the purchaser chooses to authorize others to order or receive explosives on their behalf
- The identity and current license of the purchaser's blaster
- Information required by WAC 296-52-61010, License applicants must provide this information
- Any other pertinent information requested by the department.

WAC 296-52-63020 Authorized agents.

- (1) **Required information.** The purchaser must provide the following written information for people on their authorized agent list:
 - Legal name
 - Address
 - Driver's license number or other valid identification
 - Date of birth
 - Place of birth.
- (2) **List distribution.** The purchaser must provide a current authorized agent list to:
 - The department when applying for a new or renewal license
 - Any dealer the purchase plan to order explosive materials from, prior to placing the order.
- (3) **Notification of list changes.** The purchaser must make sure the dealer's and department's authorized agent lists are updated as changes occur.

WAC 296-52-63025 Explosive order deliveries.

- (1) **Receiver identification.** Any person receiving explosives purchased from a dealer must:
 - Provide proper identification and prove to the satisfaction of the dealer that they are:
 - The purchaser
 - OR**
 - Their authorized agent

WAC 296-52-63025 (Cont.)

- Sign their legal signature on the dealer's receipt.

(2) **Delivery locations.** Explosives must be delivered into:

- Authorized magazines
- Approved temporary storage
- OR**
- Handling areas.

WAC 296-52-63030 Notify the department of blaster changes. The purchaser must:

- Notify the department when the licensed blaster changes
- Provide their current blaster's license number to the department.

BLASTER'S LICENSE

WAC 296-52-64005 Responsibility to obtain a blaster's license. No one may conduct a blasting operation without a valid blaster's license issued by the department.

Note: A blaster's license is not required for a "hand loader."

Blaster license classifications table. The following information shows classification for blasting licenses.

- **Classification list assignment.** Classification list assignment is determined by the use of single or multiple series charges; and the knowledge, training, and experience required to perform the type of blasting competently and safely.
- **Multiple list applications.** When an applicant wants to apply for multiple classifications and the classifications desired are from two or more classification table lists:
 - All classifications must be requested on the application
 - Qualifying documentation for all classifications being applied for must be included in the applicant's resume (WAC 296-52-64050, Applicant information). Training and experience may fulfill qualification requirements in multiple classifications.
- **Request classifications not lists.** Applicants must request specific classifications (not list designations) on their blaster application. Licenses are not issued or endorsed for Classification Table lists A, B, or C.
- **License additions.** To add a classification to an existing license, see WAC 296-52-64085, Changes to a blaster's license classification.

WAC 296-52-64005 (Cont.)

License Classifications Table					
LIST A		LIST B		LIST C	
AG	Agriculture	DE	Demolition	BT	Bomb Technician*
AV	Avalanche Control	SB	Surface Blasting*	UL	Unlimited*
ED	Explosives Disposal*	UB	Underground Blasting		
FO	Forestry*	UW	Underwater Blasting		
LE	Law Enforcement*				
IO	Industrial Ordnance				
SE	Seismographic				
TS	Transmission Systems				
WD	Well Drilling				

* Detailed classification information.

- **Bomb technician.** Disposal of bombs, illegal fireworks and explosive devices.
- **Explosives disposal.** Disposal of explosive materials by licensed blasters.
- **Forestry.** Includes logging, trail building, and tree topping.
- **Law enforcement.** Diversionary devices, explosive detection K-9 dog handlers, crowd control devices (stingers) and tactical entry.
- **Surface blasting.** Includes construction, quarries, and surface mining.
- **Unlimited.** Includes all classifications except underground blasting and law enforcement.

WAC 296-52-64020 General qualifications for blasters.

- (1) **Physical condition.** An applicant must be in good physical condition.
- (2) **Drug use.** An applicant cannot be addicted to narcotics, intoxicants, or similar types of drugs.

Note: This rule does not apply to physician prescribed drugs and/or narcotics when taken as directed if their use will not place the blaster, or other employees in danger.

- (3) **Knowledge, experience, and performance in transportation, storage, handling, and use of explosives.**
A blaster applicant must:

- Have working knowledge of state and local explosives laws and regulations
- Have adequate blaster training, experience, and knowledge
- Be able to:
 - Safely perform the type of blasting to be used
 - AND**
 - Recognize hazardous conditions
- Be competent in the use of each type of blasting method to be used
- Have the ability to understand and give written and oral directions.

WAC 296-52-64030 List A qualifications. To be considered for a blaster's license, limited to one or more List A classifications, an applicant must have a minimum of forty hours documented training accrued during the previous six years.

The training must include a minimum of one of these three requirements:

- Eight hours basic blaster safety classroom training and thirty-two hours classification specific field training experience under a qualified blaster
- Sixteen hours basic blaster safety classroom training and twenty-four hours classification specific field training experience under a qualified blaster
- Twelve months classification specific field training experience.

WAC 296-52-64035 List B qualifications. To be considered for a blaster's license, which includes one or more List B classifications, the applicant must meet one of the following requirements listed below:

- Eighteen months of documented blasting experience which includes a minimum of twelve months of documented experience in List A and six months documented blasting experience in each classification being applied for in List B
- Twelve months of documented blasting experience in the past six years in the specific classification being applied for in List B.

Note: Up to eighty hours of classroom training may be substituted for experience.

WAC 296-52-64040 List C qualifications.

(1) **Unlimited classification.** To be considered for unlimited classification, the applicant must submit a detailed resume documenting:

- Experience in the majority of the classifications in Lists A and B
- A minimum of five years of continuous full time blasting experience in the explosives industry where blasting has been the applicant's primary responsibility during the previous five years.

(2) **Bomb technician.** To be considered for a bomb technician classification, the applicant must:

- Submit a copy of the certificate of graduation from the FBI Hazardous Devices School (HDS) basic course in Redstone, Alabama
- Submit a copy of the applicant's FBI Bomb Technician Certification identification card. The FBI Bomb Technician Certification card must bear a date that indicates that it is current at the time of application.
- Submit a letter from the applicant's law enforcement agency's head (chief or sheriff) stating that the applicant is a full-time employee assigned to perform bomb technician duties as part of an FBI accredited bomb squad.

WAC 296-52-64045 Application.

WAC 296-52-64050 Blaster license applicant information. An applicant for a blaster's license must provide the following information to the department:

- The application must be signed by the blasting course instructor and the qualified blaster the applicant trained under
- A detailed resume of blasting training and experience
- Satisfactory evidence of competency in handling explosives
- Information required by WAC 296-52-61010, License applicants must provide this information.

Note: The department may request additional information for the classification being applied for upon review of a blaster's resume.

WAC 296-52-64055 Blaster license testing. List A and B applicants must pass a written test prepared and administered by the department. List C applicants are exempt from testing.

WAC 296-52-64065 Blaster license limits.

- (1) **A blaster's license documents:**
 - (a) The classifications the blaster is authorized to perform
 - (b) Any limitations imposed on the licensee.
- (2) The licensee cannot:
 - (a) Perform blasting for which they are not licensed

OR

 - (b) Exceed the limits specified on the license.

WAC 296-52-64075 Blaster license disclosure. A blaster must provide their blaster's license and a valid identification card to the department or other law enforcement representatives upon request.

WAC 296-52-64080 Purchaser disclosure. A blaster may be required to verify the name of the explosives purchaser.

WAC 296-52-64085 Changes to a blaster's license classification. Additional blaster classifications may be added to a license. Applicants must:

- Submit a detailed resume which documents blasting experience in the specific classification being applied for
- Pass a written exam prepared and administered by the department.

WAC 296-52-64090 Blaster license renewal. The following requirements are for license renewal:

- General applicant qualifications, WAC 296-52-64020, General qualifications, apply.
- Renewal qualifications include the requirements of WAC 296-52-64090 License renewal, through WAC 296-52-64100, List C renewal qualifications.
- Training, experience, and responsibility requirements must be accrued during the one year before the application is submitted

WAC 296-52-64095 List A and B renewal qualifications. The following requirements are for List A and B renewal qualifications:

- (1) An application for a license renewal must include documentation of:
 - Blasting experience, by providing a minimum of one blast record

OR

 - Successful completion of 8 hours of basic blaster's classroom training. The blasting course instructor must witness the submitted documentation.
- (2) List A or B applicants who do not meet the minimum classification qualifications must pass a written exam administered by the department.

WAC 296-52-64100 List C renewal qualifications. The following requirements are for List C renewal qualifications:

- (1) **Unlimited classification.** To be considered for a renewal of an unlimited license, an applicant must submit a detailed resume documenting:
 - Experience in the majority of classification in List A and B
 - Full-time blasting experience in the explosives industry, where blasting has been the applicant's primary responsibility.
- (2) **Bomb technician.** To be considered for a renewal of the bomb technician classification, an applicant must:
 - Have continuous employment as a law enforcement bomb technician accrued during the previous year
 - Submit a copy of their FBI Bomb Technician Certification identification card bearing the name of the person making application and an expiration date that indicates that the card is current and valid as of the date of renewal
 - Submit a letter from the applicant's law enforcement agency's head (chief or sheriff) stating that the applicant is a full-time employee assigned to perform bomb technician duties as part of an FBI accredited bomb squad.

Note:

- If the applicant's card has expired at the time of renewal, they need to show that they are enrolled in the next available course at Redstone, Alabama.

WAC 296-52-650 Manufacturer's license.

WAC 296-52-65005 Responsibility to obtain a manufacturer's license. Any person, firm, partnership, corporation, or public agency wanting to manufacture explosives or blasting agents, or use any process involving explosives as a component part in the manufacture of any device, article, or product must have a valid manufacturer's license from the department and a valid permit or license issued by the ATF.

WAC 296-52-65010 Manufacturer applicant information. The manufacturer applicant must provide the following information to the department:

- The reason the applicant wants to manufacture explosives
- The manufacturing or processing location
- The kind of explosives manufactured, processed, or used
- The distance that the explosives manufacturing building is located, or intended to be located, from other buildings, magazines, inhabited buildings, railroads, highways, and public utility transmission systems
- A site plan. The site plan must:
 - Include the distance each manufacturing building is located from:
 - ◆ Other buildings on the premises where people are employed
 - ◆ Other occupied buildings on adjoining property
 - ◆ Buildings where customers are served
 - ◆ Public highways
 - ◆ Utility transmission systems

WAC 296-52-65010 (Cont.)

- Demonstrate compliance with:
 - ◆ Applicable requirements of the Washington State Explosives Act
 - ◆ The separation distance requirements of this chapter
- Identify and describe all natural or artificial barricades used to influence minimum required separation distances
- Identify the nature and kind of work being performed in each building
- Specify the maximum amount and kind of explosives or blasting agents to be permitted in each building or magazine at any one time
- Information required by WAC 296-52-61010, License applicants must provide this information
- Other pertinent information required by the department.

WAC 296-52-65015 Manufacturing site inspections. The department will:

- Inspect all manufacturing or processing locations:
 - Before they are placed in operation or service
 - AND
 - Prior to licensing
- Schedule inspections:
 - Once a complete application is received
 - At the earliest available and mutually agreeable date.

WAC 296-52-65020 Conditions of a manufacturer's license. The department will issue a license to the manufacturer applicant(s) provided:

- (1) The required inspection confirms that the site plan is accurate and the facilities comply with applicable regulations of the department.
- (2) The applicant(s) or operating superintendent and employees are sufficiently trained and experienced in the manufacture of explosives.

WAC 296-52-65025 Annual inspection. The department will inspect manufacturing or processing locations annually.

WAC 296-52-65030 Site plan. The site plan must include:

- (1) A copy of the site plan and manufacturer's license must be posted in the main office of each manufacturing plant.
- (2) The site plan must be maintained and updated to reflect the current status of manufacturing facilities, occupancy changes, or other pertinent information.
- (3) Notifying the department:
 - When a significant change occurs in the site plan
 - For a consultation before changing operations if the change is of such nature or magnitude that compliance with requirements of this chapter is questionable.

WAC 296-52-660 Storage license.

WAC 296-52-66005 Responsibility to obtain a storage license. Any person, firm, partnership, corporation, or public agency wanting to store explosive materials must have a valid license from the department.

WAC 296-52-66010 Storage applicant information. Applicants must provide the following information to the department:

- The address or a legal description of the existing or proposed magazine or mobile storage site must be clearly identified
- The reason explosive materials will be stored
- The kind of explosives or blasting agents that will be stored
- The maximum quantity of explosive materials that are or will be stored
- Identify the total weight, in pounds, of all explosive materials to be stored on site
- The distance that the magazine is located or intended to be located from other magazines, inhabited buildings, explosives manufacturing buildings, railroads, highways, and public utility transmission systems
- How long the storage license is needed
- Information required by WAC 296-52-61010, License applicants must provide this information
- Any other pertinent information requested by the department.

WAC 296-52-66015 Storage site inspections. The department will:

- Inspect magazines, mobile-storage sites, and manufacturing plants:
 - Before being placed in operation or service
 - Prior to licensing
- Will schedule inspections:
 - Once a complete application is received
 - At the earliest available and mutually agreeable date.

Note: See WAC 296-52-66040, Annual storage inspection, for mobile storage site qualifications.

WAC 296-52-66020 Demonstration of handling and storage experience. Applicants or officers, agents, or employees of the applicant, must demonstrate satisfactory experience in:

- Handling explosives
- The storage requirements for any type of explosive materials to be stored.

WAC 296-52-66030 Storage license number. The storage license number must:

- (1) Be permanently affixed on the inside and outside of each storage magazine.
- (2) Stay with each magazine throughout its life.

WAC 296-52-66035 Storage limit. A storage license documents the storage limits imposed on the licensee. Storage cannot exceed the limits specified on the license.

WAC 296-52-66040 Annual storage inspection. Magazines, mobile storage sites, and manufacturing plants will be inspected annually.

WAC 296-52-66045 Mobile storage sites. Semi-trailers or other mobile facilities used to transport blasting agents on site or on highways are considered adequate for blasting agent storage, provided they meet:

- (1) U.S. DOT requirements for transportation of blasting agents.
- (2) The requirements of Table H-20, Table of Distances for Storage of Explosives with respect to inhabited buildings, passenger railways, and public highways.
- (3) The requirements of Table H-22, Separation Distances of Ammonium Nitrate and Blasting Agents from Explosives or Blasting Agents with respect to one another.

WAC 296-52-66050 Moving, altering, or destroying a licensed magazine. Follow these requirements to move, alter, or destroy a licensed magazine:

- (1) When a magazine is moved, altered, or destroyed, the licensee must:
 - (a) Notify the department
 - (b) Provide the license number of the magazine
 - (c) Identify the specific alterations made to the magazine.
- (2) A magazine may be moved on a job site within a reasonable distance from the original location stated on the application without notifying the department, provided the:
 - (a) New location complies with the requirements of this chapter and the Washington State Explosives Act
 - (b) Magazine can be quickly located for an inspection.

WAC 296-52-66055 Transfer or lease of a magazine or mobile storage site. The following are requirements for transfer or lease of a magazine or mobile storage site:

- (1) **Notification.** When a licensed magazine or mobile storage site is leased or transferred to another person, the owner must:
 - (a) Notify the department.
 - (b) Provide the magazine license number to the department.
- (2) **New user obligations.** A new magazine or mobile storage site user:
 - (a) Is responsible for the safe operation of the magazine.
 - (b) Must:
 - Submit a magazine storage application to the department
 - Pay the license fee for a minimum of one year
 - Obtain a storage license prior to storing explosive materials in the magazine or at the mobile storage site.

WAC 296-52-66060 Reporting changes in conditions. Any change in conditions around a magazine, mobile storage site, or manufacturing plant that could adversely affect compliance with any requirement of this chapter must be promptly reported to the department. Examples of reportable changes include:

- (1) Construction of occupied buildings.
- (2) Public utilities transmission systems.
- (3) Roads or railroads that have been built closer to the manufacturing plant or magazine.